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Cat. No. 43-1039

OWNER'S MANUAL

Please read before using this equipment.

ET-539

25-Channel Cordless Telephone with Lighted Keypad

RadioShack™

FEATURES

Your RadioShack ET-539 25-Channel Cordless Telephone with Lighted Keypad includes the latest advances in cordless phone technology, and includes these features:

Auto-Scan — automatically selects the clearest channel when you pick up the phone.

25-Channel Selector — lets you manually change channels to find the one with the least interference.

Lighted Keypad — lights to make the phone easy to use when you are making or answering a call in a dark room.

10-Number Memory — lets you store 10 phone numbers in memory for easy dialing.

Advanced Super CCT Circuitry — provides clarity comparable to a corded phone, reduces background noise, and increases effective operating distance.

COM-LOK® — ensures that other cordless phone users cannot use your phone line while the handset is on the base.

Automatic Security Access Protection Code — changes each time you disconnect and restore power to the base to help prevent other cordless phone users from using your phone line while the handset is off the base.

Flash — sends an electronic switchhook signal for use with special phone services such as call waiting.

Redial — with the touch of a button, quickly redials the last number dialed.

Touch Tone or Pulse (Rotary) Dialing — lets you connect your phone to either type of service.

Handset Volume Control — lets you control the volume of the sound you hear through the handset.

Hearing-Aid Compatibility — lets you use your phone with hearing aids that have a T (telephone) switch.

Please read this Owner's Manual carefully so you can enjoy all of your telephone's features.

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Important: Cordless phones such as this one require AC power to operate. When the AC power is off, you cannot dial out or receive incoming calls using your ET-539. For this reason, the ET-539 cordless phone should not be your only telephone. To be safe, you should also have a phone that does not need AC power to operate (not a cordless phone) so you can still make and receive calls if there is an AC power failure.

This telephone has been tested and found to comply with all applicable UL and FCC standards.

Your ET-539 operates on standard radio frequencies, as allocated by the FCC. Therefore, it is possible for other radio units operating on similar frequencies, within a certain area, to inadvertently intercept your conversations and/or cause interference on your cordless telephone. This lack of privacy can occur with any cordless telephone.

For your records, we urge you to record the serial number of your phone in the space below. The serial number is on the bottom panel of the base.

Serial Number _____

Warning: To prevent fire or shock hazard, do not expose this product to rain or moisture.

CAUTION

RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK.
DO NOT OPEN.

CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER OR BACK. NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED PERSONNEL.

This symbol is intended to alert you to the presence of uninsulated dangerous voltage within the product's enclosure that might be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock. Do not open the product's case.

This symbol is intended to inform you that important operating and maintenance instructions are included in the literature accompanying this product.

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READ THIS BEFORE INSTALLATION

We have designed your telephone to conform to federal regulations, and you can connect it to most telephone lines. However, each device that you connect to the phone line draws power from the phone line. We refer to this power draw as the device's ringer equivalence number, or REN. The REN is shown on the bottom of your phone's base.

If you are using more than one phone or other device on the line, add up all the RENs. If the total is more than five, your phone might not ring. In rural areas, a total REN of three might impair ringer operation. If ringer operation is impaired, remove a device from the line.

FCC STATEMENT

This telephone complies with Part 68 of *FCC Rules*. You must, upon request, provide the FCC registration number and the REN to your phone company. These numbers are located on the bottom of your phone's base.

Note: You must not connect your phone to any of the following:

- Coin-operated systems
- Party-line systems
- Most electronic key phone systems

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INSTALLATION

SELECTING A LOCATION

Select a location for the telephone that is:

- Near an AC outlet
- Near a telephone line jack
- Out of the way of normal activities
- Away from electrical machinery, electrical appliances, and metal walls or filing cabinets
- Away from wireless intercoms, alarms, and room monitors

The base's location affects the phone's range. If you have a choice of several locations, try each to see which provides the best performance.

Note: If the phone line jack is not a modular jack, you must update the wiring yourself, using jacks and adapters available at your local RadioShack store. Or, you can let the phone company update the wiring for you.

- The phone company will charge you for the installation of the necessary jacks.
- The USOC number of the jack to be installed is RJ11C for a baseboard jack or RJ11W for a wall jack.

Caution: You must use a 120V AC/12V DC adapter that delivers at least 200 milliamps with its center tip set to positive. Its plug must correctly fit the phone's **12V DC** jack. The supplied adapter meets these requirements. Using an adapter that does not meet these requirements could damage the phone or the adapter.

Placing the Base on a Desk Top

1. Plug one end of the supplied modular cord into the phone jack on the back of the base.
2. Plug the modular cord's other end into a modular phone line jack.
3. Insert the supplied AC adapter's barrel plug into the **12V DC** jack on the back of the base.
4. Plug the adapter into a standard AC outlet.
5. Fully extend the base's antenna and place it in a vertical position.

Mounting the Base on a Wall Plate

You need a standard wall plate (not supplied) for this mounting method.

1. Plug one end of the short modular cord into the phone jack on the back of the base.

2. Route the short cord downward through the top left slot on the base's bottom and under the clips as shown.

3. Route the other end of the short cord through the hole in the supplied bracket's center.

4. Align the tabs on the bracket with the slots on the back of the base and push up on the bracket until it snaps in place.

   Note: If you later want to remove the bracket, press **PUSH** and slide the bracket down to remove it from the base's bottom.

5. Insert the supplied AC adapter's barrel plug into the **12V DC** jack on the back of the base. Then route the adapter's cord around the strain relief and through the right slot on the base's bottom and under the clips as shown.

   (illus
   w/callout:
   AC Adapter)

6. Plug the adapter into a standard AC outlet.

7. Plug the modular cord into the wall plate's jack.

8. Align the bracket's keyhole slots with the wall plate studs and slide the base downward to secure it.

9. Press and lift out the handset holder. Rotate the holder 180 degrees as shown, and then snap it back into place so it holds the handset.

(Illus with
callout: Lift)

10. Fully extend the base's antenna and place it in a vertical position.

Mounting the Base Directly on a Wall

You need two wood screws (not supplied) for this mounting method.

1. Drill two holes $3\frac{15}{16}$ inches (100 mm) apart. Then thread a screw into each hole, letting the heads extend about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6.5 mm) from the wall.

2. Plug one end of the supplied long modular cord into the phone jack on the back of the base.

3. On the bottom of the base, route the modular cord downward and under the left slot's clips. Then plug the cord's other end into a modular phone line jack.

4. Align the tabs on the bracket with the slots on the back of the base and push up on the bracket until it snaps in place.

Note: If you later want to remove the bracket, press **PUSH** and slide the bracket down to remove it from the base's bottom.

5. Insert the supplied AC adapter's barrel plug into the **12V DC** jack on the back of the base. Then route the adapter's cord around the strain relief and through the right slot on the base's bottom and under the clips.

(Illus with callout: AC Adapter)

6. Plug the adapter into a standard AC outlet.

7. Align the keyhole slots with the mounting screws and slide the base downward to secure it.

8. Press and lift out the handset holder. Rotate the holder 180 degrees as shown, and then snap it back into place so it holds the handset.

(illus with callout: Lift)

9. Fully extend the base's antenna and place it in a vertical position.

PREPARATION

CONNECTING THE BATTERY

Before you use your phone for the first time, you must connect the battery and charge it for 15 hours.

Slide off the battery compartment cover on the back of the handset and connect the battery's plug to the pins inside the compartment.

Replace the cover, then follow the instructions under "Charging the Battery."

CHARGING THE BATTERY

After you connect the battery, set **POWER** to **OFF**. Then place the handset on the base so the CHARGE/TALK indicator lights and let the battery charge for about 15 hours.

(Illus with callout: CHARGE/ TALK Indicator)

The phone recharges whenever the handset is on the base. You can recharge the battery at any time, but you must be sure to recharge the battery when LOW BATT lights on the handset.

Notes:

- The first time you use your phone after charging the battery, the handset might not work or might sound an error tone when you press **TALK**. This might also occur when you recharge a battery that has been completely discharged.

  If this happens, be sure the handset is turned on. Then return the handset to the base for 5 seconds. This resets the security access protection code.

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- If the CHARGE/TALK indicator does not light when you place the handset on the base, be sure the battery is connected to the pins inside the battery compartment (see "Replacing the Battery") and the AC adapter is securely connected to the base.

  Also, check the charging contacts on the handset and base. If the contacts are dirty or tarnished, gently clean them with a pencil eraser.

  (illus with callout: Charging Contacts)

- About once a month, fully discharge the battery by keeping the handset off the base until LOW BATT flashes. Then return the handset to the base and recharge the battery for 15 hours.

SETTING THE DIALING MODE

Set **TONE/PULSE** on the back of the base for the type of service you have. If you are not sure which type you have, do this test.

1. Set **TONE/PULSE** to **TONE**.
2. Lift the handset, press **TALK**, and listen for a dial tone.
3. Press any number other than **0**.

   If the dial tone stops, you have touch-tone service. Leave **TONE/PULSE** set to **TONE**.

   If the dial tone continues, you have pulse service. Set **TONE/PULSE** to **PULSE**.

SETTING THE VOLUME

Adjust **VOLUME HI/LOW** on the handset to control the volume of the sound you hear through the handset.

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OPERATION

MAKING/ANSWERING A CALL

You can use your cordless telephone at the base or away from the base. Fully extend the handset's antenna.

Using the Handset at the Base

You can use the handset at the base like a regular corded telephone. Just set **POWER** to **ON** and place the handset in the base.

To answer a call, lift the handset from the base.

To make a call, lift the handset from the base and press **TALK** so the keypad and the CHARGE/TALK indicator on the base light.

To disconnect a call, replace the handset on the base.

Using the Handset Away from the Base

To make or answer a call, set **POWER** to **ON** and press **TALK**. The keypad light and the CHARGE/TALK indicator turn on.

To disconnect a call, press **TALK** so the keypad light and the CHARGE/TALK indicator turn off.

Notes:

- To conserve battery power, you can turn off the handset's power when you are not making or answering a call. The ET-539 does not ring when it receives an incoming call with the handset's power turned off. However, other phones on the same line still ring. To answer the call using the cordless phone, turn on the handset and press **TALK**.
- You can make or answer a call on a phone on the same line as the cordless phone, even if the handset is away from the base.

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CHANGING CHANNELS

Your ET-539's Auto-Scan feature automatically selects the clearest channel when you pick up the phone. If you experience interference during a call, press **CH** to switch to the next channel (25 in all) until you receive the best reception.

USING REDIAL

To quickly redial the last number dialed, simply lift the handset from the base and press **TALK** again so the CHARGE/TALK indicator lights, then press **REDIAL**.

The redial memory holds up to 81 digits in the tone mode or 80 digits in the pulse mode. The redial memory also holds pause entries (see "Entering a Pause" under "Memory Dialing").

Note: We recommend you not use **REDIAL** to dial numbers that include a tone (*) entry (see "Using Tone Services on a Pulse Line").

USING FLASH

Use **FLASH** on the handset to perform the switchhook operation for special services, such as call waiting.

For example, if you have call waiting, press **FLASH** to take an incoming call without disconnecting the current call. Press **FLASH** again to return to the first call.

Notes:

- If you do not have special phone services, pressing **FLASH** might disconnect the current call.
- The redial memory does not store a **FLASH** entry or any digits entered after you press **FLASH**.

USING TONE SERVICES ON A PULSE LINE

Some special services, such as bank by phone, require tone signals. If you have pulse service, you can still use these special tone services by following these steps.

1. Set **TONE/PULSE** on the base to **PULSE**.
2. Dial the service's main number.
3. When the service answers, press * on the keypad. Then dial the additional numbers. The phone sends these numbers as tone signals.
4. When you complete the call, place the handset on the base or press **TALK** to disconnect the call. The phone automatically resets to the pulse mode.

Note: We recommend you not use **REDIAL** to dial numbers that include a tone (*) entry.

USING PAGE

The **PAGE** feature lets you send a page from the base to the handset. With the handset's power on and its **TALK** light off, the handset beeps three sets of two beeps when someone presses **PAGE** on the base. The **TALK** light on the handset and the CHARGE/TALK indicator on the base flash.

Note: The handset will not beep during a call or if its power is off.

MEMORY DIALING

You can store up to 10 numbers up to 16 digits long.

Notes:

- If **TONE/PULSE** is set to **PULSE** and you want to use tone dialing for a memory number, you must store the tone entry (*) in the next memory location. Do not store both pulse and tone entries in the same memory location.
- To keep your accounts secure, we recommend you do NOT store your personal access code for services such as bank-by-phone in a memory location.

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Storing a Number in Memory

1. With the handset's power on, press **MEMORY**. The keypad lights.

   Note: While you are storing a number in memory, if you do not press any button on the keypad within about 9 seconds, a buzz sounds, then the keypad light turns off. You must start the process over from the beginning.

2. Dial the phone number you want to store.

3. Press **MEMORY** again.

4. Press the memory location number (**0**-**9**) where you want to store the number. A long beep sounds. The phone number is now stored in memory.

5. Remove the plastic covering from the base's index sheet with a small pointed object, such as the end of a straightened paper clip. Write the person's or company's name by the memory location number on the sheet in pencil (in case you want to store a different number later).

6. Repeat Steps 1-5 to store other telephone numbers.

Notes:

- If you receive a call while you are storing a number in memory, press **TALK** to answer the call. After the call, begin again at Step 1 to store the number.
- To change a number stored in memory, simply store a new number in that memory location.
- To clear a memory location so no number is stored there, press **MEMORY** twice, then press the memory location number. A long beep sounds. The number is now cleared from memory.

  If a buzz sounds, you did not successfully clear the memory location. Try the process again.

Entering a Pause in a Memory Number

In some telephone systems, you must dial an access code (9, for example) and wait for a second dial tone before you can dial an outside number. If your phone is connected to one of these systems, you might want to enter a pause at the appropriate point when you store a phone number in memory.

At the appropriate place in the number, press **REDIAL** to enter a 2-second pause. For a longer pause, press **REDIAL** again.

Dialing a Stored Number

Follow these steps to dial a number stored in memory.

1. Lift the handset from the base and press **TALK** so its light turns on.
2. When you hear a dial tone, press **MEMORY** and then press the correct memory location number. The phone dials the stored number.

Storing/Chain Dialing Service Numbers

When storing numbers for special services (such as alternate long distance or bank-by-phone), store the service's main phone number in one memory location and numbers for additional information in others.

Note: If you initially use pulse dialing to dial the service, be sure you have stored a tone entry (*) in the next memory location before the numbers for the additional information.

To chain dial memory numbers, follow these steps.

1. With the handset's power on and the **TALK** light on, press **MEMORY** and the memory-location number for the service's main number.
2. Wait for the service to answer.
3. Press **MEMORY** and the memory location numbers for the additional information.
4. To disconnect the call, press **TALK** so its light turns off, or simply replace the handset on the base.

Testing Stored Emergency Numbers

If you store an emergency service's number (police department, fire department, ambulance) and you want to test the stored number, make the test call during the late evening or early morning to avoid peak demand periods. Remain on the line to explain the reason for your call.

TROUBLESHOOTING

We do not expect you to have any problems with your telephone, but if you do, the following suggestions might help. If you still have problems, check other phones on the same line to see if they work properly. If they do and the problem does not seem to be with your phone service, take your phone to your local RadioShack store for assistance.

Problem: The handset does not work.

Solutions:

- Move the handset closer to the base.
- Fully extend the handset's and base's antennas vertically.
- Be sure **POWER** is set to **ON**.
- Be sure the phone line cord and AC adapter are correctly and securely connected.
- Be sure the battery is charged.
- Return the handset to the base for 5 seconds, then try again.

Problem: Volume drops or you hear unusual sounds.

Solution: Someone has picked up another phone on the same line. Hang up the other phone.

Problem: Call is noisy.

Solutions:

- Press **CH** to switch to another channel.
- Do not mount the base near appliances or large metal objects.
- Hang up and redial the number.
- Keep the handset away from interference sources such as computers, remote control toys, wireless microphones, wireless alarm systems, wireless intercoms and room monitors, fluorescent lights, and electrical appliances. If the interference is severe, turn off the interfering device.

Problem: The handset's range decreases.

Solutions:

- Fully extend the handset's and base's antennas vertically.
- Be sure the antenna is not touching a metal surface.
- Return the handset to the base and recharge the battery.

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Problem: Receiver sound flutters or fades.

Solutions:

- Move handset closer to the base.
- Fully extend the handset's and base's antennas vertically.
- Be sure the battery is charged.

Problem: Can make calls, but telephone does not ring.

Solution: The telephone company might be using unusual ringing methods. Your telephone is designed for standard straight line bridged ringing.

Problem: Can receive calls, but cannot make calls.

Solution: Set the **TONE/PULSE** switch correctly for the type of service you have.

Problem: You cannot answer/make a call and the handset sounds an error tone when you lift it from the base or press TALK.

Solution: The phone might be receiving interference from another RF signal; or, if the handset is away from the base during a long period of AC power failure, the phone might lose its security access protection code. Return the handset to the base for a few seconds.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Your ET-539 25-Channel Cordless Telephone with Lighted Keypad is an example of superior design and craftsmanship. The following suggestions will help you care for your phone so you can enjoy it for years.

Keep the phone dry. If it gets wet, wipe it dry immediately. Liquids can contain minerals that corrode the electronic circuits.

Handle the phone gently and carefully. Dropping it can damage circuit boards and cases and cause the phone to work improperly.

Use and store the phone only in normal temperature environments. Temperature extremes can shorten the life of electronic devices and distort or melt plastic parts.

Keep the phone away from dust and dirt which can cause premature wear of parts.

Wipe the phone with a damp cloth occasionally to keep it looking new. Do not use harsh chemicals, cleaning solvents, or strong detergents to clean your phone.

Modifying or tampering with the phone's internal components can cause a malfunction and might invalidate its warranty and void your FCC authorization to operate it. If your phone is not performing as it should, take it to your local RadioShack store for assistance. If the trouble is affecting the phone lines, the phone company might ask you to disconnect your phone until you have resolved the problem.

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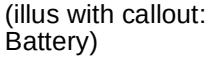
REPLACING THE BATTERY

If you follow the instructions in "Charging the Battery," the supplied battery should last about a year. When the battery loses its ability to fully charge, order a 3.6-volt, 300-milliamp battery with a connector that fits the connector in the battery compartment. You can order a replacement battery through your local RadioShack store.

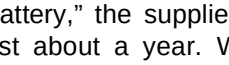
Install the new battery as described below, then charge the battery (see "Charging the Battery").

1. Slide off the battery compartment cover on the back of the handset as shown. Loosen the plastic strap securing the battery.



2. Gently pull on the battery connector to disconnect the plug, then remove the battery.

3. Insert a fresh battery and connect its plug to the pins inside the battery compartment. Secure the battery in place with the plastic strap.



4. Replace the cover.

Important: Your telephone contains a rechargeable nickel cadmium battery. At the end of the battery's useful life, it must be recycled or disposed of properly. Contact your local, county, or state hazardous waste management authorities for information on recycling or disposal programs in your area. Some options that might be available are: municipal curb-side collection, drop off boxes at retailers, recycling collection centers, and mail back programs.

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THE FCC WANTS YOU TO KNOW

In the unlikely event that your phone causes problems on the phone line, the phone company can temporarily discontinue your service. If this happens, the phone company attempts to notify you in advance. If advance notice is not practical, the phone company notifies you as soon as possible and advises you of your right to file a complaint with the FCC.

Also, the phone company can make changes to its lines, equipment, operations, or procedures that could affect the operation of the phone. The phone company notifies you of these changes in advance, so you can take the necessary steps to prevent interruption of your phone service.

Your phone might cause TV or radio interference even when it is operating properly. To determine whether your phone is causing the interference, turn off your phone. If the interference goes away, your phone is causing the interference. Try to eliminate the interference by:

- Moving your phone away from the receiver
- Connecting your phone to an AC outlet that is on a different electrical circuit from the receiver
- Contacting your local RadioShack store for help

If you cannot eliminate the interference, the FCC requires that you stop using your phone.

LIGHTNING

Your phone has built-in protection circuits to reduce the risk of damage from surges in phone line current. These protection circuits meet or exceed FCC requirements. However, lightning striking the phone lines can damage your phone.

Lighting damage is not common. Nevertheless, if you live an area that has severe electrical storms, we suggest that you unplug your phone during storms to reduce the possibility of damage.

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NOTES

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RadioShack Limited Warranty

This telephone product is warranted against manufacturing defects in material and workmanship for one (1) year from the date of purchase from RadioShack company owned stores and authorized RadioShack franchisees and dealers. Within this period **bring your RadioShack sales slip** as proof-of-purchase date to any RadioShack store.

This warranty does not cover damage or failure caused by or attributable to Acts of God, abuse, misuse, improper or abnormal usage, faulty installation, improper maintenance, lightning or other incidence of excess voltage, or any repairs other than those provided by a RadioShack Authorized Service Facility, or transportation costs. **RadioShack is not responsible or liable for indirect, special, or consequential damages arising out of or in connection with the use or performance of the product or other damages with respect to loss of property, loss of revenue or profit, or costs of removal, installation or reinstallation.**

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This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

We Service What We Sell *10/95*

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